AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 1, 9, 17, 25, and 33 are currently amended.

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of charging for directory assistance services that are provided over a packet switched network, the method comprising:

transmitting information associated with ~~one or more~~ a plurality of directory listings to a

client access device over the packet switched network in response to a query initiated by a

customer, ~~wherein the customer selects one or more of the directory listings based on the~~

~~information~~;

in response to a selection of more than one of the directory listings from the client access

device, transmitting a plurality of listing numbers ~~tracking number of selected directory~~

~~listings that are transmitted~~ to the client access device; and

preparing billing information based upon ~~the~~ a number of the ~~selected directory listings~~

plurality of listing numbers transmitted to the client access device.

2. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, wherein the information in the transmitting step includes partial directory information, the method further comprising:

receiving a request for the billing information from the client access device; and transmitting

the billing information to the client access device.

3. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

transmitting the billing information according to a pre-determined delivery mechanism,

wherein the delivery mechanism includes at least one of e-mail, facsimile, or paging.

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4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the client access device in the tracking step includes at least one of a personal computer (PC), a PDA (personal digital assistant), a web-appliance, an e-mail client, a web-enabled cell phone, or non-PC device.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the directory assistance services include at least one of a client controlled querying, modifying, classifying, editing, or web-based text chatting, and wherein the directory listings in the tracking step include a name, an address, and a directory number, an enhanced content data including at least one of a mobile number, a pager number, a facsimile number, a voice-mail, an e-mail address, or a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) identifier.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the packet switched network is an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and the client access device employs the IP protocol.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the preparing step comprises:

determining a billing arrangement of the customer; and

computing an invoice amount based upon the billing arrangement, wherein the billing

arrangement includes at least one of a transactional based fee arrangement, per seat

arrangement, flat rate fee arrangement, or volume based fee arrangement.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the directory listings in the tracking step are based upon data that is supplied from a local exchange carrier (LEC), a Regional Bell Operating Company (RBOC), or a third party database.

9. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus for charging for directory assistance services that are provided over a packet switched network, the server apparatus comprising:

a communication system configured to transmit information associated with ~~one or more~~ a plurality of directory listings to a client access device over the packet switched network in response to a query initiated by a customer, ~~wherein the customer selects one or more of the directory listings based on the information~~ and, in response to a selection of more than one of the directory listings from the client access device, transmitting a plurality of listing numbers to the client access device;

a processor configured to ~~track number of selected directory listings that are transmitted to the client access device and to~~ prepare billing information based upon ~~the~~ a number of ~~directory listings~~ the plurality of listing numbers transmitted to the client access device; and

a memory coupled to the processor configured to store the number of the ~~selected directory listings~~ plurality of listing numbers.

10. (Previously Presented)   The server apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the information in the transmitting step includes partial directory information, further comprising:

a communication interface configured to receive a request for the billing information from the client access device, and to transmit the billing information to the client access device over the packet switched network.

11. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

a communication interface configured to transmit the billing information according to

a pre-determined delivery mechanism, wherein the delivery mechanism includes at least one of e-mail, facsimile, or paging.

12. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the client access device includes at least one of a personal computer (PC), a PDA (personal digital assistant), a web-appliance, an e-mail client, a web-enabled cell phone, or non-PC device.

13. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the directory assistance services include at least one of a client controlled querying, modifying, classifying, editing, or web-based text chatting, and wherein the directory listings include a name, an address, and a directory number, the enhanced content data including at least one of a mobile number, a pager number, a facsimile number, a voice-mail, an e-mail address, or a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) identifier.

14. (Original) The server apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the packet switched network is an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and the client access device employs the IP protocol.

15. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the processor is configured to determine a billing arrangement of the customer, and to compute an invoice amount based upon the billing arrangement, wherein the billing arrangement includes at least one of a transactional based fee arrangement, per seat arrangement, flat rate fee arrangement or volume based fee arrangement.

16. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the directory listings are based upon data that is supplied from a local exchange carrier (LEC), a Regional Bell Operating Company (RBOC), or a third party database.

17. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus for charging for directory assistance services that are provided over a packet switched network, the server apparatus comprising:

means for transmitting information associated with ~~one or more~~ plurality of directory listings

to a client access device over the packet switched network in response to a query initiated

by a customer, ~~wherein the customer selects one or more of the directory listings based on~~

~~the information~~;

means for transmitting a plurality of listing numbers ~~tracking number of selected directory~~

~~listings that are transmitted~~ to the client access device in response to a selection of more

than one of the directory listings from the client access device; and

means for preparing billing information based upon ~~the~~ a number of the ~~selected directory~~

~~listings~~ plurality of listing numbers transmitted to the client access device.

18. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the information in the transmitting step includes partial directory information, the apparatus further comprising:

means for receiving a request for the billing information from the client access device; and

means for transmitting the billing information to the client access device.

19. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

means for transmitting the billing information according to a pre-determined delivery mechanism, wherein the delivery mechanism includes at least one of e-mail, facsimile, or paging.

20. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the client access device includes at least one of a personal computer (PC), a PDA (personal digital assistant), a web-appliance, an e-mail client, a web-enabled cell phone, or non-PC device.

21. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the directory assistance services include at least one of a client controlled querying, modifying, classifying, editing, or web-based text chatting, and wherein the directory listings include a name, an address, and a directory number, the enhanced content data including at least one of a mobile number, a pager number, a facsimile number, a voice-mail, an e-mail address, or a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) identifier.

22. (Original) The server apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the packet switched network is an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and the client access device employs the IP protocol.

23. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the preparing means comprises:

means for determining a billing arrangement of the customer; and

means for computing an invoice amount based upon the billing arrangement, wherein the

billing arrangement includes at least one of a transactional based fee arrangement, per

seat arrangement; flat rate fee arrangement, or volume based fee arrangement.

24. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the directory

listings are based upon data that is supplied from a local exchange carrier (LEC), a Regional Bell

Operating Company (RBOC), or a third party database.

25. (Currently Amended) An on-line directory assistance service system for charging for

directory assistance services that are provided over a packet switched network, the system

comprising:

a system configured to transmit information associated with ~~one or more~~ a plurality of

directory listings to a client access device over the packet switched network in response to

a query initiated by a customer, ~~wherein the customer selects one or more of the directory~~

~~listings based on the information~~ and, in response to a selection of more than one of the

directory listings from the client access device, transmitting a plurality of listing numbers

to the client access device;

a server configured to ~~track number of selected directory listings that are transmitted to the~~

~~client access device and to~~ prepare billing information based upon ~~the~~ a number of

~~directory listings~~ the plurality of listing numbers transmitted to the client access device;

and

a database coupled to the server and configured to store the number of the ~~selected directory~~

~~listings~~ plurality of listing numbers.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the information in the transmitting step includes partial directory information, and the server is configured to receive a request for the billing information from the client access device, and to transmit the billing information to the client access device over the packet switched network.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the server is configured to transmit the billing information according to a pre-determined delivery mechanism, wherein the delivery mechanism includes at least one of e-mail, facsimile, or paging.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the client access device includes at least one of a personal computer (PC), a PDA (personal digital assistant), a web-appliance, an e-mail client, a web-enabled cell phone, or non-PC device.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the directory assistance services include at least one of a client controlled querying, modifying, classifying, editing, or web-based text chatting, and wherein the directory listings include a name, an address, and a directory number, the enhanced content data including at least one of a mobile number, a pager number, a facsimile number, a voice-mail, an e-mail address, or a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) identifier.

30. (Original) The system according to claim 25, wherein the packet switched network is an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and the client access device employs the IP protocol.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the server is configured to determine a billing arrangement of the customer, and to compute an invoice

amount based upon the billing arrangement, wherein the billing arrangement includes at least one of a transactional based fee arrangement, per seat arrangement, flat rate fee arrangement, or volume based fee arrangement.

32. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the directory listings are based upon data that is supplied from local exchange carriers (LECs), a Regional Bell Operating Company (RBOC), or third party databases.

33. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for charging for directory assistance services that are provided over a packet switched network, the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

transmitting information associated with ~~one or more~~ plurality of directory listings to a client access device over the packet switched network in response to a query initiated by a customer, ~~wherein the customer selects one or more of the directory listings based on the information~~;

transmitting a plurality of listing numbers ~~tracking number of selected directory listings that are transmitted~~ to the client access device in response to a selection of more than one of the directory listings from the client access device; and

preparing billing information based upon ~~the~~ a number of the ~~selected directory listings~~ plurality of listing numbers transmitted to the client access device.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the information in the transmitting step includes partial directory information, and wherein the one or more processors further perform the steps of:

receiving a request for the billing information from the client access device; and transmitting the billing information to the client access device.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the one or more processors further perform the steps of:

transmitting the billing information according to a pre-determined delivery mechanism, wherein the delivery mechanism includes at least one of e-mail, facsimile or paging.

36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the client access device in the tracking step includes at least one of a personal computer (PC), a PDA (personal digital assistant), a web-appliance, an e-mail client, a web-enabled cell phone, or non-PC device.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the directory assistance services include at least one of a client controlled querying, modifying, classifying, editing, or web-based text chatting, and wherein the directory listings in the tracking step include a name, an address, and a directory number, the enhanced content data including at least one of a mobile number, a pager number, a facsimile number, a voice mail, an e-mail address, or a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) identifier.

38. (Original) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the packet switched network is an Internet Protocol (IP) network, and the client access device employs the IP protocol.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the preparing step comprises:

determining a billing arrangement of the customer; and

computing an invoice amount based upon the billing arrangement, wherein the billing arrangement includes at least one of a transactional based fee arrangement, per seat arrangement, flat rate fee arrangement, or volume based fee arrangement.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 33, wherein the directory listings are based upon data that is supplied from a local exchange carrier (LEC), a Regional Bell Operating Company (RBOC), or a third party database.